Sea Food Industry

1569. SHRI RAVULA CHANDRA SEKAR REDDY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the sea food industries in the country are facing set back due to lack of infrastructure and foreign competition which forced the employees to find job elsewhere for their livelihood;

(b) if so, the reasons for collapse of the industry; and

(c) whether Government propose to provide alternate jobs to the workers who lost their job?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) In view of above, the question does not arise.

Revised Trade Policy

1570. DR. M.A.M RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Centre Government propose to introduce a new or revised Trade Policy for the country;

(b) if so, the salient features of this revised Trade Policy; and

(c) the benefits of this revised Trade Policy?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) to (c) Government proposes to Introduce the Annual Supplement to the Foreign Trade Policy, 2004— 09 (announced on 31.08.04) on 31st March, 2005. Continued emphasis on employment intensive thrust sectors apart from reduction in transaction costs through procedural simplification and furthering Electronic Data Initiatives are expected to be the key focus of the Annual Supplement of the policy.

Trade Pacts

1571. DR. M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government have signed any trade pacts with any country;

(b) if so, the details of these pacts with different countries signed recently; and

(c) the benefits of such pacts which will accrue to the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI E.V.K.S. ELANGOVAN): (a) Yes, Sir. India has signed trade pacts with Afghanistan, Argentina, Angola, Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Bhutan, Bosina and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, China, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Peoples Republic of Korea, Estonia, Ethiopia, France, Georgia, Ghana, Hungary, Itlay, Ivory Coast, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liberia, Lithuania, Maldives, Mongolia, Mauritius, Moldova, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, Nigeria, Paraguay, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Senegal, Seychelles, Slovak Republic, South Africa; Sri Lanka Swaziland, Tajikistan, Tanzania, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom, Uruguary, Uzbekistan, Zaire, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

(b) The bilateral trade agreements broadly provide for Most Favoured Nation (MFN) treatment on reciprocal basis, co-operation for mutual benefits with a view to expanding trade and strengthening economic co-operation, validity of the agreements, exchange of information, Counter-Trade, exchange of business delegation, co-operation in the various spheres of mutual interest, specifying the currency for payment purpose, providing safeguard clauses, creation of forum like Joint Trade Committee to monitor the implemention of Trade Agreement.

(c) These pacts are expected to faciliate expansion of bilateral trade and economic cooperation on a long term and stable basis and to provide appropriate format for the trade and industry to identifv economic opportunities and to develop business relations.

Benefits of India's economic diplomacy

1572. DR. T. SUBBARAMI REDDY:
SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether India's economic diplomacy has started yielding results as a significant expansion in trade with its neighbours is paving way for closer relations with these countries;